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Assistant Director for Operations

9 September 1955

Chief, Foreign Documents Division

FDD Monthly Progress Report - August 1955

ADMINISTRATION

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1. The total personnel on duty as of 31 August was [REDACTED]

2. As a result of intra-Agency recruitment for language trainees, three clerical personnel were transferred from the IAB pool to participate in the FDD Russian-language training program.

25X1A 3. Three FDD Russian linguists were transferred to the DD/P area for Project [REDACTED] 25X1A

4. [REDACTED] Management Staff, conducted a survey of FDD operations from 1 to 9 August. His recommendations will be formalized in a Management Staff report to the AD/O.

25X1A 5. As a result of a classification survey conducted by [REDACTED] Classification Office, four secretarial positions were raised from GS-5 to GS-6 and four clerk-typist positions were raised from GS-4 to GS-5, thus bringing these clerical positions into line with general practice in the DD/I area. 25X1A

6. [REDACTED] Chief, Administrative Staff, attended a meeting of the Agency Committee on Space Planning. The original estimates of FDD space requirements in the proposed CIA building were cut slightly.

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[REDACTED]

8. On 16 August, Chief, FDD, had a meeting with Mr. John Easton of the JCS, a member of an ad hoc committee on linguistic personnel established by the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Since this committee is reviewing the possibilities of establishing a linguist pool in the Defense Department, Mr. Easton was exploring what steps CIA had taken along these lines and whether CIA might support Defense Department efforts in this undertaking. Chief, FDD, pointed out that CIA at present has too many requirements to be able to offer any help.

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9. [REDACTED] Acting Deputy Chief, FDD, spoke on FDD operations at the Clandestine Services Review Course No. 7 on 15 August

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10. [REDACTED] completed the eight-week OTR course on American Policy in the Pacific.

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11. [REDACTED] began full-time Chinese language training at NSA.

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12. [REDACTED] attended the SANS Conference on South and Southeast Asia, sponsored by OTR, 8-11 August.

OPERATIONS

1. The 53rd meeting of the Subcommittee on Exploitation of Foreign Language Publications was held on 12 August. A restatement of Subcommittee objectives was adopted outlining the aims as 1) to examine requirements for information from foreign-language publications and the present activities of agencies engaged in exploiting such sources, 2) to examine coordination of translation services and recommend improvements; and 3) to review periodically the exploitation program to effect any necessary alterations or improvements. The next meeting is scheduled for 9 September

2. During the month the first of two new scheduled reports were issued:

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The scheduled publication "Report on Overseas Chinese Activities in Southeast Asia" was discontinued with the August (No. 6) issue. The information normally included in this report will be given in area reports or in the "Selected Briefs From the International Press."

3. Reference to the CTS Index prevented 86 cases of duplication totaling 2303 pages

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4. A proposal has been made informally that the files on the USSR Academy of Sciences held by OSI be transferred to FDD for retention and maintenance. It is understood that [REDACTED] Support Staff, OSI may formalize this proposal in a recommendation for action of the AD/SI

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5. Discussions were held between representatives of Far East Branch, FDD, and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] OTR, relative to FDD support of NIS section 64 (Manufacturing and Construction) on China.

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6. Commendations:

From Acting Chief, ROM/OIS, for excellent service rendered by [REDACTED] while on six-months special assignment in FE/DD(P).

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From Chief, TSS/ID, for Central Asian linguistic support and background information furnished by [REDACTED]

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From [REDACTED] ONI, for rapid preparation of the certificate of transfer of the USS Mingo to the Japanese.

7. Liaison activities:

Department of the Army

With Army Map Service to discuss Far East technical engineering sources and coverage under the FDD program.

Department of State

With Division of Research for Far East to supply reference material on technical economic matters in the China area.

8. Special services rendered:

OTR -- For Language and External Training School, a 2½ hour recording of spoken Russian was prepared.

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Office of Secretary of Defense -- For Research and Development Division, Chinese films were viewed and evaluated.

9. Outstanding reports:

FDD Note No. 32 -- First indication of the location of a tractor plant in China.

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FDD Summary No. 229 -- Weekly Information Report on
Communist China (15) (Composition of Chinese Communist Party
Central Committee 1-5.)

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The above items were cited in the OCI Current Intelligence
Digest. 

FDD Summary No. 23 -- "Science News Items (18)" (Moscow
session on the peaceful uses of atomic energy, pp. 1-21)

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J. J. BAGNALL

Enclosures: 2

1. Statistical Report on FDD Operations
2. Details on Personnel Actions

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